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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Stefan JOOS and Peter LICHTER

CPA of Application No. 09/171,854

Parent Filing Date: October 22, 1998

For: **IDENTIFICATION OF
NUMERICAL CHANGES IN
CELL DNA**

Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: Sisson, B.

Attorney's Docket No: 03528.0038.US00

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX CPA

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith a Preliminary Amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendment prior to considering the application.

THE AMENDMENT

In the Specification

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 11 with the following paragraph:

10x DOP primer: 20 μ M of oligonucleotide 5'CCG ACT CGA GNN NNN NAT GTG
G3', (N = A, C, G or T; SEQ ID NO: 1).